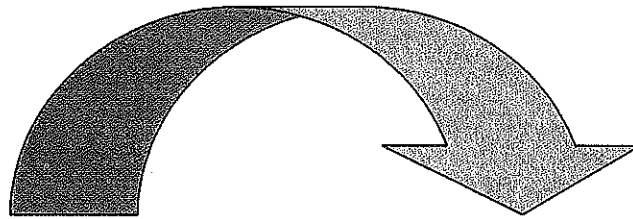


# Washington's Child Restraint Law

The driver is responsible for making sure all children less than 16-years old are properly buckled up.

- The child restraint system (infant seat, child safety seat, or booster) must be used correctly (per child restraint and vehicle manufacturers' instructions).
- Children under 13-years old ride in the back seat *"where it is practical to do so."*
- Vehicles with lap-only belts in all rear seating positions are exempt from the requirement to use a booster seat.

A ticket can be issued for each unbuckled or improperly buckled child. Tickets cost at least \$112



## Step 1: Child Restraint

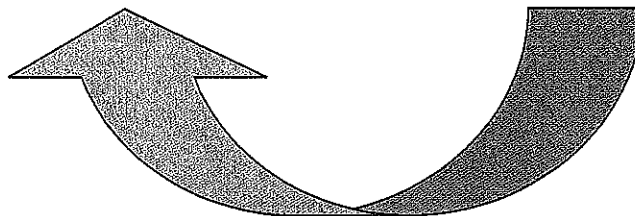
Use a child restraint until the child's 8<sup>th</sup> birthday, **unless the child is already 4 feet 9 inches tall** (which ever comes first).

## Step 2: Safety Belt

**When a child reaches their 8<sup>th</sup> birthday OR is already 4 feet 9 inches tall, check for proper safety belt fit. You must say "yes" to all five questions below:**

1. Does the child sit all the way back against the auto seat?
2. Do the child's knees bend comfortably at the edge of the auto seat?
3. Does the lap belt stay on the top part of the thighs?
4. Is the shoulder belt centered on the chest and shoulder?
5. Can the child stay seated like this for the whole trip?

**If the answer to any question is "no," the safety belt does not fit properly. Go back to Step 1.**



For more information about child passenger safety:  
[www.800BUCKLUP.org](http://www.800BUCKLUP.org)   [www.boosterseat.org](http://www.boosterseat.org)   [www.abrochatuvida.org](http://www.abrochatuvida.org)  
425-828-8975   1-800-BUCK-L-UP   1-877-7-TU-VIDA